

# Suspected robbers burnt to death in Kumasi

KWADWO BAFFOE DONKOR / 30 MARCH 2015



One of the two suspected armed robbers, who have been alleged to be terrorizing residents of Ayigya Zongo and Affordable Housing near Asokore Mampong, was Monday morning burnt to death by angry residents.



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The other one, who had deep cutlass wounds on his head, hands and at the back, is currently on admission at the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH).

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## Police arrival

But for the timely arrival of the police, he too would have been killed by the angry mob who decided to mete out instant justice to them.

The deceased, who has been identified only as Yussif, together with Joseph Salifu, who is in a critical condition and one other now at large, were alleged to have tried to snatch a bag containing a laptop from a student at around 4:30 am at gun point.

The victim was alleged to have raised an alarm which attracted residents to the scene who chased the suspected robbers.

The residents, who claimed to have had enough of armed robbery in the area, gave them a hot chase.

Luck eluded the two as they were caught by the residents and beaten up mercilessly after which kerosene was poured on them and set ablaze.

## Confirmation

Confirming the incident to the *Daily Graphic*, the District Commander of Tech District Police, Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP), Mr Ransford Nsiah, said Salifu was able to survive because the residents did not have petrol and had to rely on kerosene, “which is not as combustible as petrol and as such did not burn faster.”

He said the burning of the suspects took place some 600 metres away from where the robbery was said to have taken place.

According to him, information gathered indicated the robbers were three and one managed to escape but the two were rounded up.

He said the police was yet to make any arrest and no one had made any report to the police about any attempt of theft.

He said when the police got to the scene, Yussif had already given up the ghost but Joseph was still breathing and had to be rushed to the ICU of KATH where he is currently receiving care.

He, however, doubted if he would make it “due to the nature of the injuries sustained and the amount of blood that he has lost.”

## Action of residents

According to ASP Nsiah, the residents claimed they have suffered one form or the other at the hands of thugs who have been terrorizing them.

He reiterated the call on the public not to take the law into their own hands and mete out instance justice to alleged criminals.

He suspected that their action might have been out of anger and frustrations.

## Appeal

He pleaded with them to always hand over suspected criminals to the police to conduct more investigations as killing them “does not solve the problem. They may not be alone and we need to get all those behind the scene as well.”

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